



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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OK

October 3, 2002

TO: Internal File

THRU: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor

DRH

FROM: Priscilla W. Burton, Sr. Reclamation Specialist/Soils

RE: 4th East Portal Construction, Consolidation Coal Company, Emery Deep Mine, C/015/015

DOGM Attendees: Priscilla Burton, Dave Darby, Steve Demczak (Inspector), Wayne Western

Other Attendees: Tim Kirschbaum and Seth McCourt, Consol

Date & Time: September 10, 2002, 2:40 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Weather Conditions: Overcast, 65 F

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this visit was to discuss deficiencies with the 4th East Portal Amendment and to observe conditions at the site.

OBSERVATIONS:

Response to deficiencies on the 4th East Portal Amendment was discussed.

At the site, Mr. Rex Funk, County Road Supervisor, was inspecting ongoing road construction of the new county road. Mr. Funk indicated that an MgCl compound had recently been applied to the graded surface of the county road adjacent to the mine site.

TECHNICAL FIELD VISIT

Inside the disturbed area, the roadways were moist from rain. The pit was holding water. Trackhoe was working in water to scoop out the overburden. The excavation had reached the level of the coal. The water was black with coal fines.

The topsoil pile had been gouged on the surface but not the slopes. The topsoil pile had been seeded with Russian Wildrye, Highcrest Crested Wheatgrass, and Fourwing Saltbush and mulched and tacked. There were small grass seedlings emerging in the pocks. The berm around the topsoil pile had also been seeded with warm season species. Both had been irrigated over the last month. Although only half of the berm had been seeded. Treatment of the topsoil is described in letter to the Division from Mr. Seth McCourt dated July 9, 2002.

Construction of the fence on the west boundary disturbed the topsoil. The topsoil should be reseeded in July with the warm season mix.

The buffer zone between the access road and the undisturbed drainage was being used as a storage area.

Mr. McCourt indicated that fan construction is going to require additional disturbance in the buffer zone.

RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS:

The buffer zone should remain clear of materials and should not be disturbed by traffic. Additional disturbance in the buffer zone requires additional topsoil storage. This topsoil could be salvaged and used to create the berms between the disturbed area and buffer zone. This topsoil berm should be seeded and marked with a sign to indicate that it is topsoil.